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14 June 1977

TRANSLATIONS ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
NO. 4

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INTERNATIONAL

INDIA, USSR SIGN PROTOCOL ON TROPOSCATTER LINK

Delhi ISI in English 0854 GMT 31 May 77 BK

[Text] India and the Soviet Union in Moscow 30 May signed a protocol settling details for the proposed troposcatter communication link across the Himalayas to go into operation from April 1980, reports Samachar.

A significant feature of the protocol is the substantial use to be made of Indian technology in the setting up of the receiving stations on both sides of the link.

Apart from recognition of Indian advance in certain areas of telecommunications, the arrangement will also enable India to pay off a greater part of the cost of Soviet equipment and assistance. The import component forms about a fourth of the rupees 40 million project.

Under the protocol, which will form the basis for contracts to be signed by parties on both sides within the next 2 or 3 months, India will buy the latest radio equipment. India will supply to the Soviet Union two 30 metre by 30 metre [words apparently dropped by ISI] entirely designed and developed in the country for use at the Soviet end of the link near Dushanbe in Tadjikistan. The Indian station will be located near Sprinagar.

The protocol provides for cooperation in the supply of spares, installation commissioning and maintenance of equipment.

An exchange of personnel is also envisaged with a view to sharing of experience in troposcatter systems.

The troposcatter system, which works on the principle of bouncing radiowaves off mountain peaks, will provide large capacity, reliable and all weather communication channels for traffic not only between two countries but from South-east Asia to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The link will have 12 channels initially capable of being doubled later on.

The protocol was signed by S. B. Lal, additional secretary in the Ministry of Communications on behalf of India.

INTERNATIONAL

LAOS-USSR RADIO-TV AGREEMENT SIGNED 'RECENTLY'

Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 27 May 77 BK

[Text] Vientiane, May 27 (KPL)--An agreement on cooperation in broadcasting between the Lao National Radio and the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of the Soviet Union was signed recently in Moscow during a friendly visit to the Soviet Union paid by a delegation of the Lao National Radio.

The signatories were Chaleun Vongsamang, director of the Lao National Broadcasting Department and head of the delegation, and Enver Mamedov, first vice president of State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of the USSR.

The agreement provides for an exchange of broadcasting programmes on socio-political and economic questions, popularization of science, culture, literature and sports. It also provides for special programmes on the occasions of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution and the second anniversary of the proclamation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The agreement also provides for the development of technical cooperation and the exchange of specialists.

CSO: 5500

INTERNATIONAL

CEMA COMMISSION SESSION BEGINS IN ULAANBAATAR

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 0523 GMT 25 May 77 OW

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 24 May (MONTSAME)--The 12th session of the CEMA Permanent Commission for Telegraphic and Postal Communications began its work here today.

Participating in the work of the session are representatives of CEMA member countries and Yugoslavia as well as a delegation of the CEMA Secretariat.

CSO: 5500

INTERNATIONAL

BRIEFS

PAKISTAN-IRAN ECONOMIC PROTOCOL--A protocol providing for increased trade and economic and technical cooperation between Pakistan and Iran was signed in Islamabad today at the end of a 3-day session of the Pak-Iranian Joint Ministerial Commission. The commission emphasized the need for continuing improvement in telecommunication facilities between the two countries. It was noted that two more channels via satellite will be added between Teheran and Rawalpindi during the current month. [Excerpts] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 May 77 BK]

INFORMATION AGENCIES CONFER IN HELSINKI--Helsinki, 23 May, TASS--A meeting of directors of information agencies of Denmark, Sweden, FRG, GDR, the Polish People's Republic, the Soviet Union and Finland has been held here. The question of procedure of exchanging information between information agencies, including information on environmental protection measures, undertaken by states towards the Baltic Sea, has been discussed. An agreement on cooperation between the news agency of the Soviet Union (TASS) under the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the Finnish Radio and Television (oy yleisradio ab) in the exchange of information and photo-information was signed at the time of the conference. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 23 May 77 LD]

SWEDEN/THAILAND EQUIPMENT ORDER--L. M. Ericsson has received an order from Thailand to supply that country with telephone equipment valued at some 9 million dollars (approximately 45 million French francs). This contract covers the furnishing of telephone exchanges designed to handle the country's long-distance telephone traffic. The contract confirms the Swedish firm's strong position as Thailand's chief supplier of telecommunications equipment. [Text] [Paris ELECTRONIQUE ACTUALITE in French 15 Apr 77 p 7] 8041

CSO: 5500

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

MPR, LAOS SIGN RADIO BROADCASTING AGREEMENT

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1823 GMT 27 May 77 OW

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 27 May (MONTSAME)--A cooperation agreement [was signed by the] Television Committee of the MPR Council of Ministers and the Lao National Radio. The document was signed by S. Purebjab, chairman of the MPR State Information, Radio and Television Committee and (Shalun Vongsamang), general director of the Lao National Radio.

The agreement provides for development of cooperation between Mongolia and Laos in radio broadcasting, particularly in the mutual exchange of radio programs demonstrating the socioeconomic and cultural life of the two countries and in the exchange of radio journalists and specialists.

'Warm and Friendly Atmosphere'

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1502 GMT 27 May 77 OW

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 27 May (MONTSAME)--J. Batmonh, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers, today received a Lao radio delegation led by (Shalun Vongsamang), general director of the Lao National Radio. The Lao delegation is visiting here at the invitation of the State Information, Radio and Television Committee of the MPR Council of Ministers.

Present at the meeting, which proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere, was S. Purebjab, chairman of the MPR State Information, Radio and Television Committee.

Departure of Delegation

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1835 GMT 30 May 77 OW

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 30 May (MONTSAME)--The Lao delegation headed by (Salun Bongsamang), director general of the Lao National Radio, left for home today. The Lao radio delegation was in the MPR at the invitation of the State Information, Radio, and Television Committee.

The delegation acquainted itself with the work of Mongolian radio and television and the "orbita" space communications station and visited industrial enterprises and cultural institutions. An agreement on cooperation between the MPR State Information, Radio, and Television Committee and Lao radio was signed during the visit of the Lao delegation.

During its visit in the MPR the Lao delegation was received by J. Batmonh, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers. (Salun Bongsamang), director general of Lao radio, also had friendly talks with S. Purebjab, chairman of the MPR State Information, Radio, and Television Committee, and T. Namsray, chief editor of UNEN and chairman of the Mongolian Journalists Union.

CSO: 5500

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

MASS MEDIA SEMINAR IN BALI--Denpasar, 20 May (ANTARA)--ASEAN mass media will hold their second seminar in Bali from June 16 to 20, it was disclosed by B. R. Siagian, head of the ASEAN Public Relations Office, at a meeting with K. T. Wentra of the Bali Provincial Office in Denpasar last Wednesday. The seminar will be attended by 40 delegates. Siagian said, the seminar theme will be "mass media as the backbone of ASEAN." Information Minister Mashuri is scheduled to open the seminar, which is to be held at the Sanur Bali Beach Hotel. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA in English 0832 GMT 20 May 77 BK]

CSO: 5500

NEW COMPUTER PHONES PLANNED

Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 5 May 77 p 1

[Text]

CANBERRA. — Australia soon may buy a new sophisticated computerised national telephone network costing hundreds of millions of dollars.

The Swedish-designed system was recommended by the Telecommunications Commission in Melbourne last week.

It is understood that the new system will include an abbreviated dial service, where one, two or possibly three digits only need be dialled for commonly-used numbers.

Push-button telephones would be available and subscribers would get a printed account, itemised by computer, of charges for international calls.

The Swedish system makes out its own checks for malfunctions.

By using it Telecom could save \$100 million over the next 10 years in maintenance costs.

In that period, installation would be cheaper by about \$20 million than the present system.

But it would replace almost-new equipment worth \$50 million. There were suggestions last night that this would have to be dumped.

Last night a union official claimed that the new system would be open to security abuses.

In Canberra the Post and Telecommunications Minister (Mr. Robinson) said the recommendation for a computerised telephone network had not yet reached him, and no Government decision had been made.

Mr. Robinson said he did not have any details of the recommended system, or to what extent it could be "bugged." These aspects would be examined.

The Commission is understood to be recommending that the new system be programmed to begin operating in 1982.

Frightening

In Brisbane, the Australian Telecommunications Employees' Association State secretary (Mr. A. Muir) said the computerised telephone system would make it possible to tap every line in the country.

There were practically no means of detection.

He said anyone of about 200 key personnel would be able to insert commands into the computer to intercept calls and divert them through a third party.

The implications were frightening. It opened the way for bribery, graft, and corruption.

Taps also could be put on the telephones of political leaders or political parties, union officials, business opponents, horse trainers, jockeys and bookmakers.

Industrial espionage could become rampant.

Conversion

Mr. Muir said conversion to the new computer system, known as ARE II, had begun in South Australia and Victoria and was due for completion in 1982.

The first two Brisbane exchanges to be converted would be Salisbury and Mt. Gravatt. Work was due to start in July.

Under the system, all telephone exchanges in Australia would come under the control of 27 strategically-placed command centres known as Exchange Maintenance Centres.

Brisbane would have two — at Wolloongabba and Eight Mile Plains. Each EMC controlled about 100,000 lines.

All EMC's would be connected to a National Support Centre in Melbourne.

Officers in the Melbourne centre and the EMCs would be respon-

sible for the smooth operation of the system.

"They will maintain a surveillance on the network to see that all sections are functioning," Mr. Muir said.

"This is done through the use of data terminals similar to those used by airline companies for bookings. Through the terminals, commands can be given to the computer.

"And this includes getting the computer to intercept all calls to a particular subscriber and diverting them through a third party. That third party can listen to everything said."

Mr. Muir said the union was not sure that Telecom's board was aware of the dangers.

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

RADIO AUSTRALIA TRANSMITTERS--The Australian Government has approved the upgrading of transmitters for Radio Australia at a cost of 10.3 million dollars. Posts and Telecommunications Minister Robinson says immediate plans provide for improvements to transmitters at Shepparton in Victoria. Officials are to determine whether Radio Australia's transmission facilities near Darwin, destroyed during a devastating cyclone in December 1974, are to be located in the same area. The feasibility of establishing another permanent transmission station on Australia's west coast is also to be investigated. Mr Robinson, speaking before Parliament, said that the government had endorsed the continuing need for an independent Australian external broadcasting service. The decision had been taken after considering two reports, one from an interdepartmental committee and the other from an independent inquiry into Radio Australia. [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 25 May 77 OW]

CSO: 5500

INDIA

EXPERIMENT ON COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN SATELLITE STATIONS

Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 May 77 BK

[Text] Satellite earth stations in India will begin from tomorrow an experiment on communicating with each other through the Franco-German satellite symphony. This will be the first such satellite telecommunication experiment in the country. The satellite will be available for 2 years. The project is jointly organized by the Posts and Telegraph Department and the Indian Space Research Organization.

There will be three major earth stations, besides two movable terminals, to take part in the experiment. The earth stations in Delhi and Ahmedabad have been modified for the purpose and a new earth station is coming up near Madras. Two mobile earth stations have been specially designed. Through these, it will be possible to set up experimental telephone links with any of the earth stations in Ahmedabad, Delhi and Madras.

Besides telecommunication links, the movable earth stations are capable of transmitting television programs from any part of India. One movable station will be initially located at Amreli near Ahmedabad and another will be fitted in a helicopter for emergency experiments. It will be useful for having speedier contact in case of natural calamities like floods and earthquakes. The machinery for these have been completely developed indigenously.

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES--International subscriber's dialing service to London from Delhi and Bombay is likely to be made round the clock and extended to the whole of the UK from the middle of next month. This has been stated by the minister for communications, Mr George Fernandes. In a message to World Communication Day celebrations earlier this week, Mr Fernandes said that by the end of this year direct dialing service to the United States would also be provided. India has telephone service with 197 countries, TELEX service with 178 countries and telegraph service with the whole world. There are direct satellite links with 17 countries. The country hopes to have direct satellite links with 19 more countries in a year's time. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 May 77 BK]

INDIA-BHUTAN TALKS--Talks have ended in New Delhi on India's assistance for Bhutan's Fourth Five-Year Plan. The discussions covered the current year's needs for projects for which India has to provide technical help. A 12-member Bhutanese delegation, which had come to Delhi, thanked the Indian Government for its generous help and cooperation in Bhutan's development. It reaffirmed Bhutan's policy to maintain close and friendly relations with India. [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION--Nearly 48 percent of the country's need for crude oil for the current year will be met by indigenous production. The production is expected to reach 14 million tons at the end of the year. The remaining requirement of 15 million tons will have to be imported. India has already entered into contracts with foreign suppliers for the supply of crude. Under these arrangements more than 6 million tons of crude will be imported from Iran, Iraq and the UAE. [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 22 May 77 BK]

CSO: 5500

JAPAN

BRIEFS

OPTICAL CABLE TRANSMISSION--The Technical Research and Development Institute [TRDI] is studying an optical cable signal transmission system as a new means of data transmission and reportedly intends to conduct basic trial manufacture of an experimental set in JFY 1978, based on results from a JFY 1977 contract study. If the JFY 1978 trial manufacture program is OK'ed, the schedule reportedly will be for performance tests in JFY 1979 and evaluation analysis in JFY 1980 and 1981. [Tokyo KOKUBO KEIZAI TSUSHIN in Japanese 2 May 77 p 1]

CSO: 4108

NORTH KOREA

BRIEFS

TELECOMMUNICATION DELEGATION--Pyongyang, 1 June--A delegation of the International Society of Air Telecommunication headed by B. Leroy, general manager's delegate for Asia and the Pacific of the International Society of Air Telecommunication, arrived in Pyongyang today by plane. [Excerpt] [Pyongyang KCNA in English 1617 GMT 1 Jun 77 OW]

CSO: 5500

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

PRC POST-TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNITS ENGAGE IN EMULATION DRIVE

Peking NCNA in English 0825 GMT 21 May 77 OW

[Text] Peking, 21 May (HSINHUA)--Posts and telecommunications departments throughout China are now engaged in a campaign for socialist emulation.

The movement started with a nationwide call from the Kwangtung Provincial Posts and Telecommunications Bureau early in April urging similar units to learn from Taching and to challenge the record of the Yenshou County Posts and Telecommunications Bureau in Heilungkiang Province, an advanced unit in their field. Units throughout the country responded enthusiastically.

As part of learning from Taching, the Yenshou Bureau designed and manufactured its own modern telecommunications installations which since 1975 have permitted direct dialing from the county center to communes instead of the former connection through operators. A carrier system was set up in the county. There are six times as many direct lines between the county center and communes as before the Cultural Revolution.

The call from the Kwangtung Bureau proposed that: Within two to three years a third to a half of the posts and telecommunications bureaus become Taching-type enterprises; the leading groups at various levels become militant axles with high political consciousness and good work style; the workers should raise their political consciousness and improve their service; and innovations should be made on telecommunications equipment.

The Peking Long-distance Telecommunications Administration is carrying on a competition among the workers and between the different lines. Points of competition are: The study of works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and Chairman Mao; coordination and cooperation in order to give better service to the people; a socialist attitude towards labour; and proficiency in work. This has already speeded up long-distance calls in Peking and raised the utilization coefficient of the lines.

Postmen at a post office in Shanghai have cut misdelivered mail to less [than] 0.0004 per cent, a record for the municipal mail delivery.

The post offices along the route between Chungking and Kaihsien in Szechwan Province constitute an advanced unit and attended the National Industrial Learn-from-Taching Conference. For years their workers have made sustained efforts to learn from Taching and ensured that the people of the eleven counties and cities along the route got mail and the party's newspapers and periodicals on time. As a result of the present competition, mail trucks have been running on time since April and the workers have set a new record for the accurate delivery of mails.

CSO: 5500

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BRIEFS

OFFICIAL TO ATTEND ITU SESSION--Peking, 20 May (HSINHUA)--Liu Yuan, counselor of the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and deputy director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of China, left here for Geneva by air today for attending the 32nd session of the Administrative Council of the ITU. [Text] [Peking NCNA in English 1532 GMT 20 May 77 OW]

CSO: 5500

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLISH-SFRY JOURNALISTS COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED

Warsaw PAP in English 1830 GMT 24 May 77 LD

[Text] Warsaw, 24 May, PAP--An agreement on cooperation between the Polish Journalists' Association and the Union of Yugoslav Journalists was signed here today.

The agreement covers the years 1977-80 and provides for a further deepening and broadening of contacts and cooperation between the two organizations including such forms as exchange of journalists, extension of direct collaboration between mass media in both countries, and cooperation between institutions training personnel for the press, radio and television.

CSO: 5500

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

OFFICIAL DESCRIBES PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

Prague SVET HOSPODARSTVI in Slovak No 33, 17 Mar 77 pp 1-2

[Article by Eng. Michal Ondrejka, Deputy Minister of Communications of the CSSR: "Development of the Technical Base of Communications--To Improve the Quality and Volume of Services in the Sixth Five-Year Plan"]

[Text] The development of communications services represents a constant factor in the technical improvement of the national economic management, satisfaction of its needs, an important ideological tool in influencing the society, and a tool for increasing our people's standard of living. According to current indicators of the development in communications services achieved in the sector of telecommunications, radio communications, postal services and postal newspaper subscription services by the Ministry of Communications, the CSSR is among the developed European states.

For instance, the density of telephone subscribers amounts to 18.29 telephone lines per 100 citizens, with a total of 2,743,000 telephone lines; the volume of direct dial intercity telephone calls amounts to more than 68 percent; channel I television program reaches 95 percent of the territory of the state, with the possibility of reception for 98 percent of the population, and television channel II program reaches 47 percent of the territory with the possibility of reception for 60 percent of the population; there is one post office per approximately 2,900 citizens; each mailbox serves approximately 450 citizens. The above indicators, however, do not yet guarantee such a quality of the services rendered which would correspond to the society's needs and satisfy us.

At present, for example, in the CSSR we have a backlog of as many as 459,000 unprocessed applications for installations, of which more than 26 percent are located in the area of the capital city of Prague and Bratislava; the quality of telephone connections also remains unsatisfactory; the users of postal and postal newspaper subscription services are rightfully demanding that those services be more dependable, prompt and available.

Therefore, an improvement in the quality and volume of the services rendered is the prime target for our communications in the Sixth Five-Year Plan. For that purpose the Directive for the National Economic Development for 1976-1980,

approved by the 15th CPCZ Congress, assigned the Ministry of Communications special tasks, namely, "to install 470,000 to 480,000 telephone lines; to carry on the automation of long-distance telephone calls so as to build 30 percent automatic relay telephone exchanges and more than 60 percent automated switching circuits before 1980; to expand the capacity of the long-distance telecommunications network by constructing coaxial cables and radio relay communications; to introduce into operation the Telecommunications Exchange Building in Prague; to continue the construction of transmission and relay network channel II TV, including a secondary network of transmitters, and to assure that before 1980, 60 percent of the CSSR territory is reached by the program of Channel II television network; to install additional radio transmitters, primarily the high capacity transmitters in Liblice, Topolna and Kosice; in postal services, to focus on the mechanization and automation particularly in transloading centers; in the postal newspaper subscription service to continue in mechanizing the shipping and transportation operations."

Such far-reaching objectives are forcing us to exploit every reserve and increase the requirements concerning the results of the operations, efficiency and effectiveness of the performance of the management in the process of the development of communications where there are many complex problem areas.

Tasks in Telecommunications

In 1976 more than 128,000 telephone lines have been installed and the installation plan was fulfilled by 129.6 percent. In 1977 we are anticipating that there will be additional 107,000 newly installed telephone lines. The unprocessed applications for the installation of telephone lines came mostly from large housing projects; we have noted the highest increase of telephone lines and installations of the communications technology precisely in that area. In 1977, we shall install in the capital city of Prague more than 8,400 telephone lines and in the capital city of the SSR, Bratislava, more than 7,300 telephone lines. At the end of this year, the telephone density will be at least 18.7 lines per 100 citizens and the ratio of residential lines will amount to 64.6 percent. We shall further provide prompt telephone connections by increasing the ratio of direct dialing. We are anticipating that before the end of 1977 we shall have in operation 188 fully automatic circuits, i.e., 48 percent of the total number of 244 switching telephone circuits. We shall expand the number of long-distance relays and circuits in the overloaded automatic long-distance relays.

The development of automatic telephone connections means to develop the highest stage of telephone automation over the entire CSSR area, i.e. to introduce the communications technology of automatic relay exchanges and the corresponding relay technology which makes possible direct dial connection between any two participants in the Czechoslovak telecommunications network. Before the end of this year we shall introduce the first two automatic relay telephone exchanges in Ceske Budejovice and Liberec.

An indispensable role in technological system will belong to the modern international and relay intercity exchange which we shall begin to assemble in November of this year in the Telecommunications Exchange Building in Prague. This exchange will enable the Czechoslovak customers to direct dial participants in the Prague area relay telephone circuit, and international calls as well which will be available to a greater extent than at the present time to the customers of the Prague and Bratislava networks.

Construction of New Transmitters

In radio communications, we launched into operation at the end of 1976 a TV transmitter of channel I in Cheb-Zelena Hora, a transmitter of channel II in Kosice-Dubnik, and high capacity radio transmitters in Liblice (Hviezda Medium Wave) and Kosice-Cizatice (Hviezda Medium Wave). In 1977, we want to introduce TV Channel II transmitters for South Bohemia-Klet, for Central Slovakia-Sucha Hora, Borsky Mikulas, Poprad-Kralova Hora, and Trutnov-Cerna Hora.

This year, we are also anticipating to begin construction of Channel II TV transmitters in Lucenec, Domazlice, Trebic, Nove Mesto nad Vahom, Bardejov, Plzen-City and Olomouc-Radikov. Under construction are additional Channel II TV transmitters in Praded, Frydek-Lysa Hora, Ostrava-Hostalkovice, Gottwaldov-Tlusta Hora, and in Modry Kamen. In addition to the development of the network of television transmitters, the radio transmitter network is also being expanded.

As our radio listeners know, the interference in the Czechoslovak radio broadcasts by powerful foreign transmitters has increased in recent years. We are dealing with this situation by reconstructing and developing the Czechoslovak radio network on a basis of frequency changes and in accordance with international covenants (the so-called Geneva Plan of 1975) by increasing the capacities of our transmitters. At the present time one of the high-capacity radio transmitters, namely, the transmitter in Topolna (Hviezda Long Wave) is under construction and will be in operation in 1978. Of the newly constructed or reconstructed transmitters we shall introduce this year the UHF transmitters in Plzen, Pardubice, Ceske Budejovice and Bratislava, which will improve the reception of the national circuit and of the Hviezda station in those areas and expand the scope of the stereophonic reception. In the television and radio networks we are solving additional problems, such as remote control operation of the transmitters, reduction of the power network interference in broadcasting, etc.

Improvement of Postal Services

In the postal and postal newspapers subscription services we are creating conditions for further improvement of the quality of the services rendered, in receiving as well as in transport and delivery of every kind of consignment. The postal network will be expanded by post offices in new housing projects; many post offices will be reconstructed, remodeled or replaced by those operating in new locations.

The newly reconstructed fixed capital assets will enable the postal service to conduct the necessary mechanization and to provide good working conditions. Frankly, we are still struggling with problems of space and shortage of workers, mostly again in large cities. In that respect, the situation in Prague is very distressing. For instance, during the summer of 1976, 22 of the capital city's 126 post offices had to be temporarily closed and 40 post offices provided limited services. Therefore, in the coming years the operation of post offices and of postal newspaper subscription services in the capital city of Prague will have the priority.

One of the most important innovations in the Prague area will be the installation of automatic letter-sorting equipment to be imported already this year. This equipment will be able to sort up to 20,000 letters per hour on the zip code basis (95 percent letters are now properly addressed with correct zip codes), which will save the work of about 60 workers in one shift.

Another means for improving services is a speedy delivery of articles based on expanded use of motor vehicles. Moreover, this also means savings of labor since each vehicle will save the work of one of every three workers. Among other innovations we should like to stress the introduction of vending machines, the utilization of containers in transportation, the method of repository boxes in delivery, etc.

Material Security

The outlined development tasks of the Ministry of Communications are based on capital construction which is increasing each year. The investment capital provided by our state for the development of communications in the Sixth Five-Year Plan were increased by 45 percent over the Fifth Five-Year Plan. In 1977, we shall invest approximately Kcs 3 billion in the development of communications. The funds are being invested effectively so as to balance the development of the basic communications operations and the maximum satisfaction of the society's needs.

In order to succeed in reaching the outlined objectives of the development, full funding must be provided for capital investments of the Ministry of Communications and shortcomings occurring in that sector in the last year and in previous years must be avoided. During that period considerable problems occurred in the delivery of the communications equipment by the Tesla National Enterprise and in the delivery of imports purchased by the foreign trade enterprises. Furthermore, there still exist problems with the delivery and variety of cables, especially concerning the required lengths, and with the completion of construction works by construction enterprises, with the delivery of steel constructions by metallurgic and heavy engineering enterprises, etc.

We are convinced, however, that we shall fulfill the development program of the Ministry of Communications in the Sixth Five-Year Plan in cooperation with other interested ministries, in particular the Ministry of Construction of the CSSR, the Ministry of Construction of the SSR, the Federal Ministry of General Engineering, the Federal Ministry of Metallurgy and Heavy Engineering, and the Federal Ministry of Fuels and Power.

9004

CSO: 2400

POLAND

BRIEFS

NEW TV TRANSMITTER--We are here at the radio and television transmitter on Swietzy Krzyz in Kielce Province. It has now been equipped with another transmitter for the second television program. With its range it covers the following provinces: Kielce, Radom, and Tarnobrzeg. The transmitter was produced by the Zarat Radio and Television Works. At present transmitters of the second television program cover half the country, which is inhabited by almost 70 percent of the population. At present we have 608 million television subscribers. The radio reception of TV audio has increased the capacity of the second television stations tenfold over the last 25 years. [Warsaw Domestic Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 17 May 77 LD]

CSO: 5500

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

SUBVERSIVE TV TRANSMISSION--La Plata, Buenos Aires--As TV Channel 7 began to broadcast the video tape of a soccer game last night the transmission was interrupted and the voice of a man who said that he was a member of the Montoneros was heard. The voice read a document criticizing the present government. At the end of the transmission the last part of the national hymn was also heard. The interference lasted 15 minutes. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 May 77 p 1/5 PY]

MOBILE RADIO RELAYS--Upon completing its examination of all international bids, Argentina selected Thomson-CSF as supplier of the TM 313 mobile radio relay systems designed to provide 16 two-way communication and back-up circuits for relaying television programs destined for worldwide telecasting from the TV production center in Buenos Aires to the Argentine PTT's [Postal, Telegraph and Telecommunications Administration] ENTEL system. [Excerpt] [Paris ELECTRONIQUE ACTUALITE in French 15 Apr 77 p 7] 8041

CSO: 5500

CHILE

INFORMATION OFFICE PROTESTS EFE DISTORTION OF NEWS

Buenos Aires IPS in Spanish 1720 GMT 20 May 77 PA

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 20 May--The Government Information Bureau has filed a formal protest with the Spanish EFE News Agency Office in this capital "because a Santiago-dated dispatch on 1 May was deliberately distorted" at the Central Office in Madrid.

"If an agency issues a news item and it is modified at the Central Office, it means that it has little regard for the correspondent in the country where the item originated," Max Reindl, Government Information Bureau chief, stated. He added: "There must have been someone at the Central Office who felt it was necessary to add his own political views. That is deception and shows disrespect for the sources of information and the correspondent who prepared the report."

The official protest issued by the Chilean Military Government also includes a special request that the Central EFE Office in Madrid be made aware of it.

A text of the dispatch sent from the agency office in Santiago noted that a religious ceremony had been held at the Metropolitan Cathedral in Santiago on 1 May on the occasion of the feast of St Joseph, the Worker. According to the government, the item released from Madrid stated that several thousands of people participated in the ceremony and shouted "Freedom, Freedom!"

CSO: 5500

CUBA

BRIEFS

TELEX-TGX [RENTI] COMMUNICATIONS--Santiago de Cuba--A new system of communications called Telex-TGX information network [RENTI] places the Communications Enterprise at the service of state organizations in this province. The equipment was installed in the post offices. The state organizations and branches will have a national and international news service that is of good quality, quick and efficient. That system presently includes the towns of Santiago de Cuba, Palma Soriano, San Luis, Songo-La Maya, II Frente, Julio Antonio Mella and Contramaestre. Users can request the service by telephone or in person at the post offices. [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 14 Apr 77 p 2] 7717

CSO: 3010

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

SUDANESE, EGYPTIAN BROADCASTING COOPERATION--Henceforth, there will be a broadcasting hookup between the Sudan and Egypt on occasions of national importance for the two countries. There will also be a Sudanese radio correspondent in Cairo and an Egyptian one in Khartoum. [Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 May 77 LD/EA]

CSO: 5500

BAHRAIN

NEW TELEVISION TRANSMITTING STATION OPENED

Doha GNA in Arabic 1857 GMT 30 May 77 NC

[Excerpts] Manama, 30 May--This evening Bahraini Information Minister Tarig al-Mu'ayyid, Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad Abduh Yamani and Kuwaiti Information Ministry Undersecretary Sa'dun al-Jasim opened the new microwave network which links the television transmitting station to the ground satellite station. They also opened the new television transmitting unit.

It is worth noting that the new microwave network will enable Bahrain to receive international television programs via satellites. Bahrain will begin using this network next month.

Both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait participated in the establishment of these two projects to bolster radio and television services in Bahrain within the context of cooperation between them in the various information fields.

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

MICROWAVE PROJECT--The national microwave project in the governorate of al-Ta'mim is being dedicated on the first of June to the fifth anniversary of the glorious Ta'mim resolution (to nationalize the oil industry). After its completion, the project assures the citizen of a direct link with the capital, Baghdad, and with the other governorates of the country. The Directorate of Telephone Services in the governorate of Ta'mim explained yesterday that as of today the internal connections on the Kirkuk exchange would be changed as follows: 103 instead of 03 for calls placed inside the country; 105 instead of 05 for calls placed outside of the country; 102 instead of 02 for information; 109 and 108 instead of 09 and 08 for internal checks; 106 instead of 06 for inquiries about the time; 104 instead of 04 for contact with the police rescue squad; 100 instead of 00 for fire alarms. The governorate has finished connecting the Kirkuk exchange with the main transmission station at a cost of 5 million dinars and is spending a similar amount for radio and television transmission and a series of sending and receiving stations along the Kirkuk--Salah al-Din--Diyala--Baghdad road and the Kirkuk--Irbil--Mosul road. In addition, a temporary exchange having a capacity of 900 phone lines has been set up in the city of Kirkuk for the al-Ta'mim holidays. [Text] [Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 17 May 77 p 5]

CSO: 4802

MOROCCO

BRIEFS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK--Casablanca, 1 June--Work on constructing buildings and routes for the Agadir-Tarfaya radio relay link, with an extension to Layounne, has been completed. The Agadir-Goulimine section is already operational and provisional circuits connect Layounne with the rest of the kingdom. Smara, which is already connected with Layounne and Agadir, will be connected with Rabat at the end of the first half of 1977. At the same time, Boujdour Province will be served by radiophonic links. Other work is in progress so that all towns of the Sahara provinces should have the same advantages. [Text] [Rabat MAP in French 1520 GMT 1 Jun 77 LD]

CSO: 5500

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

BROADCASTING STATION FOR BEDOUINS--Abu Dhabi, 31 May--The UAE Information Ministry is currently studying plans for setting up a special broadcasting station for Bedouins in implementation of the directives of UAE President Shavkh Zayid Ibn Sultan. This station will beam its broadcasts to nomads in the desert and remote areas and will be a regional station of the main radio in Abu Dhabi. The studies include preparation of programs for this station, which will be inspired by the Bedouin environment and will feature Arab and Islamic values and Arab and popular legacies of the desert people. [Text] [Doha Qna in Arabic 1255 GMT 31 May 77 NC]

NEW NEWS AGENCY--Abu Dhabi, 30 May--The news agency of the UAE will begin transmission twice daily in mid-June under the initials WAM [Arabic initials: Waw Alif Mim]. The necessary technical and administrative equipment necessary for operating the agency is now being prepared. This will be the second news agency to operate in the gulf area after the QATAR NEWS AGENCY. A Kuwaiti news agency and a gulf news agency are expected to be formed this year. The latter's headquarters will be in Bahrain. [Text] [Cairo MEMA in Arabic 0915 GMT 30 May 77 NC]

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

CASABLANCA-DAKAR TELEPHONE CABLE--The cable ship Vercors recently finished laying the submarine telephone cable Antinea linking Casablanca to Dakar. This cable system was ordered 2 years ago by MATELCA (Moroccan Submarine Cable Telecommunications Company) and TELESNEGAL (International Telecommunications of Senegal). The system was built by two CGE [General Electric Company] subsidiaries specializing in cable systems: Cables de Lyon for the cable proper and CIT-ALCATEL [International Telephone Company-Alsatian Atomic, Telecommunications and Electronic Construction Company] for the submerged electronic equipment and terminals. The 1.460-nautical mile cable link is of the S-5 type providing 640 very high quality telephone circuits. A total of 125 repeaters and 10 equalizers are installed at various intervals along the cable. The new international telecommunications route Antinea will greatly contribute to expansion of the African system by connecting it to systems in the Mediterranean basin and Western Europe as well as to the transatlantic cables. The next phase in this expansion will be the opening in 1978 of the submarine cable Fraternite between Senegal and Ivory Coast. [Text] [Paris ELECTRONIQUE ACTUALITIES in French 15 Apr 77 p 7] 8041

AFRICAN COMMUNICATIONS UNION--Addis Ababa, 20 May, TASS--The Conference of African [words indistinct] which closed in the capital of Ethiopia today, decided to establish an African Communications Union. The main objective of the new organization (?will be) the development of a telecommunications network both among the countries of the continent and the rest of the world. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2155 GMT 20 May 77 LD]

CSO: 5500

ANGOLA

TELECOMMUNICATIONS NET REBUILT, SATELLITE EXPANSION PLANNED

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 7 May 77 pp 1,7

[Text] The telecommunications network is of vital importance to the life of a people; it is a means of drawing populations close together. That network is very valuable to us because of the vastness of our country. We had barely emerged from the struggle against the colonialists when we had to face the forces of imperialism, which sought to prevent our liberation at all costs. And on their withdrawal under the pressure of our People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA), they destroyed everything, especially the means of communication, including, as might be expected, the radioelectronic networks and circuits. The telephone services suffered very heavily, being dismantled by the imperialist and racist puppets. On the other hand, once all of our territory was liberated, that sector was one of the most active in the effort carried out within the framework of the national reconstruction plans thus making possible the rapid communications offered by the telephone service.

That effort and dedication, unknown to a large part of our people, was stressed in the statements made to us a few days ago by the secretary of state for communications, Major Bento Ribeiro (Kabulo).

"We inherited from colonialism an inter-city communications system comprised of old and obsolete material that is no longer built, thus creating serious difficulties in maintenance, repairing damage and especially the acquisition of parts, and basically new parts to replace the wornout ones. To aggravate the situation, during the second war of national liberation a large part of the intercity telephone network as well as more than 15 stations spread out throughout the country were destroyed." That is the picture revealed to us by Comrade Major Bento Ribeiro (Kabulo)."

He continued: "The damage caused by the enemies of the people is estimated at many thousands of kwanzas. However, all the reconstruction work has been carried out by Angolans in teams made up of Angolan Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones personnel, of whom we should all be proud." This detail must be stressed, the major pointed out, because it is not well known by our people. The telecommunications sector employs only workers whom circumstances have

forced to assume responsibilities above their levels."

The Luanda Telephone Network Can Serve 36,000 Subscribers

At present, the Luanda telephone network has a capacity of 36,000 lines and can serve a similar number of subscribers. The Luanda central or main station has 10,000 lines and the others are distributed among the substations of Bungo, Sao Paulo, Alvalade, Vila Alice and Prenda (each with a capacity of 4,000 lines) and Combatentes, with 6,000 lines. The Vila Alice and Alvalade stations were first opened after independence. As of last March 31, the number of hookups is as follows: main station, 8,089; Bungo, 1,630; Sao Paulo, 932; Alvalade, 597; Vila Alice, 329; Prenda, 1,225; Combatentes, 3,977; a total of 16,779 subscribers.

Expansion of the Telephone Network to the Suburban Areas

One of the problems that concerns us, Major Bento Ribeiro (Kabulo) told us, pertains to expansion of the telephone network to the suburban areas: our low-cost housing quarters. However, owing to the conditions of access to the network it cannot be done underground. It has to be served by overhead wires. The aforementioned problem is now being studied and will be resolved soon, especially as regards the Gulf and Terra Nova areas, where there is a great density of population.

Accordingly, it is planned to install temporary networks, replacing the underground wires with overhead lines as an immediate solution for the installation of telephones in the neighborhood people's commissions, health centers, supply services and to serve individual subscribers who require them. This will be another benefit to our people in general, to whom it was not available during the colonial period.

Luanda Communications With the Rest of the Country

After a brief pause to consult a file, Major Bento Ribeiro (Kabulo) continued: "Some concrete plans are already being implemented at the national level to improve the telephone networks that link Luanda with the rest of the country. Thus last 31 March, we officially reopened the main network that links Luanda to N'Dalatando, Cela, Huambo, Lubango and Mocamedes; and another from N'Dalatando linking Luanda to Malanje; another from Huambo linking Luanda to Lobito and Benguela; another circuit from Lobito linking Luanda to Porto Amboim and Gabela; and another trunk linking Luanda to Huambo and Bie."

With regard to Mocamedes, the work having been practically completed, on 1 May we inaugurated the new telephone central with modern equipment that will permit subscribers of that city to call subscribers in Lubando automatically.

At the same time, it will also permit and facilitate communications with Porto Alexandre, a very important fishing center in our country.

With regard to Cabinda, the work is also progressing well and it is expected to be inaugurated on 11 November, the third anniversary of our people's republic. The Cabinda central will also permit connections not only within the same city but with Landana and Ponta Negra, a city in the fraternal, neighboring country of the People's Rrepublic of the Congo. Also under study is a way of permitting automatic switching between Cabinda and Luanda in addition to a link by submarine cable, the benefit of which will be very important for connections between Angolan cities.

We also expect to inaugurate the Luanda international telephone exchange this year. The work is well advanced, and its inauguration may coincide with the anniversary date of the MPLA in December of this year.

The Solution Leads Us to More Modern Systems Such as Microwaves

Telephone networks cannot operate without means of transmission, which at this time are comprised of various repeaters, a system that is far behind the times, explained Major Bento Ribeiro (Kabulo) in answer to one of our questions. We plan to install a microwave system in the stations. That project is now going to enter the first phase of implementation. It will automatically link all the exchanges with one another, replacing the present very obsolete system whose disadvantages we pointed out earlier.

We are studying the integration of the rest of the country into the national telephone network, particularly of the regions that are economically and socially important, such as Luanda, Moxico, Kuando, Kubango. In this project, we have to overcome considerable distances and resolve the difficult problems of a technical and economic nature that confront us.

Also in extending our communications system from Lubango to the Namibian border, next year we expect to enter the first phase of implementation of that project which was already underway toward the end of the colonial period. It was abandoned and during the invasion all equipment was destroyed by the South African "honkies."

Satellite Communications Can Carry Our TV Throughout the Country

At the present time, the most distant capitals from the capital are served by existing radio communications, a short-wave system that does not guarantee good reception during the day, especially in rainy and stormy weather when static considerably interferes with calls.

We have other solutions: using satellites. We are beginning this. The only satellite station for international communications is in Funda. We had to train cadres immediately after independence and even before nationalization of the Portuguese Radio-Marconi Company. We are enlarging those technical staffs; there are already 15 persons working in that satellite station. Expanding it to the whole country will call for an enormous effort to train cadres, in addition to a large share of international collaboration or participation.

Neither our government nor the MPLA Political Bureau have yet spoken out on these problems we have to resolve.

One of the great advantages of satellite transmission is the ability to carry our television all over the country. In addition, permanent, reliable telephone and telegraph communications brings closer or reduces the distances that separate Luanda from the rest of the territory no matter how far away it may be.

Television for the central and southern parts of the country can and will be transmitted through the circuits we are going to establish in the microwave network. We do not have any specific or immediate projects at the moment beyond what pertains to Luanda. This type of project requires in-depth studies and demands decisions from our supreme organs.

We believe it is possible to link the central and southern parts of our country by 1980 if we carry out the projects described above.

Next Telephone Directory

Replying to a question of ours, Maj Bento Ribeiro explained that the Luanda telephone directory will be published this year. A lot of work had to be done to prepare it, apart from the reestablishment of communications within the country and in Luanda. It was necessary to make a complete revision of present subscribers.

There has been an increase in the number of subscribers and requests for telephones, particularly from the embassies and consulates as well as from our people. This avalanche of requests required a complete revision of the subscriber records.

Considering the general shortages we have, there was really a great delay and **only** now has the list been completed. We expect our subscribers to have the new telephone list by the end of the year.

Collection of Bills in Arrears

In conclusion, he talked about the problem of the delay in settling telephone bills. Maj Bento Ribeiro concluded that as a solution the collection will be made in such a way that the services will not be interrupted and the subscribers will not feel concerned.

We were informed that the telephone bill collection services will be installed at Radio Nacional, the most appropriate premises, and the system will be very simple and serve everybody's interests.

8711
CSO: 5500

SUDAN

BRIEFS

NEW RADIO INSTALLATIONS--Khartoum, 27 May--The Sudanese vice president and prime minister, ar-Rashid at-Tahir, today inaugurated the new installations at the Sudanese radio station. The installations include four new studios, means to reoperate four other studios which were destroyed during the Libyan invasion last July, a control room and a library. All these installations cost 817,000 pounds. The Etyptian minister of culture and information, 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi, Sudanese Information Minister Bona Malwal and some ministers attended the inauguration ceremony. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1901 GMT 27 May 77 NC]

CSO: 5500

USSR

BRIEFS

RIGA TV TOWER--Plans have been approved for building a new television tower in Riga. It will be 360 meters high and will be erected on one of the islands in the Daugava River delta. It will provide for the reception of several programs over a radio of 100 kilometers. Unlike the Ostankino tower, which has a concrete foundation, the Riga television center tower will be fully mechanical and will rest on three slightly arched supports. At the height of 96 meters there will be a viewing platform and a cafe. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 26 May 77 LD]

CSO: 5500

SPAIN

RADIO/TV ALLOCATES TIME SLOTS FOR POLITICAL PARTIES

[Editorial Report LD] Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish at 2000 GMT on 28 May reported that a meeting of the Spanish Radio and Television Committee, held earlier in the day, dealt with the question of free time for political party broadcasts on radio and television. The various political parties were each allocated two 10-minute periods on television and the 15-minute periods on Radio Nacional de Espana, as follows [all times converted to GMT] Spanish Social Reform.

TV: 31 May at 1930 and 6 June at 1330: Radio: 31 May at 1330 and 6 June at 2030.

Falange Espanola de las Jons--Authentic

TV: 1 June at 1930 and 7 June at 1330; radio: 1 June at 1330 and 7 June at 2030.

Christian Democratic Federation

TV: 2 June at 1930 and 8 June at 1330; Radio: 2 June at 1330 and 8 June at 2030.

Popular Socialist Party

TV: 3 June at 1930 and 9 June at 1330; radio: 3 June at 1330 and 9 June at 2030.

Democratic Front of the Left

TV: 6 June at 1930 and 10 June at 1330; radio: 6 June at 1330 and 10 June at 2030.

Spanish Communist Party

TV: 31 May at 1330 and 7 June at 1930; radio: 31 May at 2030 and 7 June at 1330.

Alianza Popular

TV: 1 June at 1330 and 8 June at 1930; radio: 1 June at 2030 and 8 June at 1330.

Spanish Socialist Workers Party

TV: 2 June at 1330 and 9 June at 1930; radio: 2 June at 2030 and 9 June at 1330.

Union of the Democratic Center

TV: 3 June at 1330 and 10 June at 1930; radio: 3 June at 2030 and 10 June at 1330.

In addition, a third period of 10 minutes on television and 15 minutes on radio nacional will be broadcast by each of the parties, federations and coalition on 13 June, the last day of the election campaign between 1930 and 2110 GMT on television and between 1330 and 1545 GMT on Radio Nacional.

"At the same time," the report adds, "the committee unanimously agreed to consult the Central Electoral Board on the possible assessment to be made of the news treatment on Spanish radio and television of the various parties, federations or coalitions listed above according to the greater or lesser number of districts in which they are putting up candidates."

CSO: 5500

SPAIN

RADIO, TV TO HAVE NEUTRAL ELECTION COVERAGE

Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 May 77 LD

[Text] Now that the election campaign has started, Spanish Radio and Television [RTVE] has issued a communique stating the regulations that will govern radio and television programming during the 21 days of the election campaign. In accordance with the government's instructions, these regulations will guarantee a total and absolute neutrality of information and will provide all groups, parties and coalitions running for election with equality of opportunity.

Regarding free time on radio and television stipulated in a recent decree, the dates and times of these free slots on radio and television will be determined by mutual agreement between the RTVE directorate general and the different parties and coalitions.

The parties and coalitions will make their own programs with the full cooperation of RTVE and the programs will be broadcast exactly as submitted. If any discrepancies arise, they will be resolved by the central or provincial electoral boards.

Regarding reports on electoral activities radio and television news broadcasts, throughout the campaign only those reports submitted by the parties and coalitions themselves will be included in news broadcasts. The length of these reports will be established daily by agreement with the parties and coalitions.

RTVE will limit itself to the reading of communiques of those groups presenting candidates in 25 or more provinces on the second television newsreel and in espana a las Ocho [morning radio news broadcast at 0600 GMT].

Communiques from other groups will be broadcast by regional television centers and local radio stations. Apart from these communiques RTVE will provide no other information about the electoral activities of the various candidates.

In addition, a series of daily programs under the general title of election specials will be broadcast during the campaign. These programs will be aimed at promoting civic education and providing information about electoral procedures, how to vote, and so on. They will be broadcast with the prior agreement of the electoral boards and will be selected by the Consultant Technical Committee made up of representatives of the parties and coalitions running for election.

Regarding the remaining RTVE programs and the content of its news broadcasts which do not directly refer to electoral activities, RTVE will submit its program schedules to the Consultant Technical Committee and to the electoral boards. Whenever it is feasible, RTVE will provide them on request with pre-views of recorded programs. Needless to say, live programs will be submitted after the fact so that the electoral boards can make suggestions for future broadcasts.

In short, the communique says, in accordance with the express wish of the government, RTVE will remain absolutely neutral during the 21 days of the campaign and will fulfill its duty to its viewers and listeners with all clarity, balance and fairness. It will accept at all times the final decision of the electoral boards and of the parties and coalitions through the consultant technical committee.

RTVE wants to guarantee that Spaniards may vote freely in the forthcoming elections without any kind of influence being exerted by the state's communications media. By providing complete equality of opportunity, it wants to enable the electorate to be aware of the objectives and programs of each of the parties, groups and coalitions running in the 15 June general election.

CSO: 5500

END